Pets in the Sea.

C. F. Holder, in the "Outlook." During a visit to one of the islands off the coast of southern California I found that the fishermen were in the habit of feeding certain wild animals, which in time became so tame that strangers might almost think they were domesticated. The fishermen fed the gulls every morning when cleaning their fish, some of the birds becoming so triendly that they allow the men to touch them, while others follow them out to sea, alighting on their boats, and exhibiting remarkable confidence. Among the animals his cane, without any such manwhich frequently came into the lit tle bay to feed was a large seal. It sometimes followed fishing boats in, and once, when rows of fish were hung up to be photographed by their f rtunate captors, it raised its head high out of the water, apparently eying the fish so eagerly that the boatmen gave it a share. The fishermen usually went gill fishing late in the afternoon, and the seal, perhaps conceiving that hands of the pitiless constable, the whole operation was for its benefit, began to accompany them; and as soon as a fish became en tangled it would dive down and take it out of the net, returning to the surface to toss it in the air in high glee before the eyes of the fisherman. In this way the seal robbed the nets, growing bolder and bolder. At last, one day when one of the fishermen had returned from the banks and was washing his catch from a boat not far from the spot where the writer s ood, splashing the big red fish to and tro, suddenly a large black form darted up from below, two black eyes looked at the amazed fisherman for a moment, and then the seal snatched the fish from his hands, and swam away amid the shouts of laughter from the lookers on. A few days later, presumably the same seal appeared off the wharf where several anglers were fishing, and dettly carried off their bait without being hooked. In the latter sport the scal was joined by a slack diver-a bird with a long, snakelike neck and pointed billwhich was as much at home beneath the water as above, and Waich watched the fishermen with eager glance. The moment the bait struck the water, the bird plunged beneath the surface and seized it. Finally it was hooked and hauled ashore—an operation that did not prevent it, on being released, from renewing the piltering on the following day. A fisherman on the Maine coast

once claimed to own a remarkable pet, though it must be confessed that the question of proprietorship was open to doubt. The man was in the habit of fishing about ten miles off shore on what was known as the cod banks, and often took fish of little use, which he tossed Homer. The Greeks made them over. One day he noticed a tunny in skull caps, conical, truncated, playing about the boat, and tossing narrow or broad brimmed. The a dogfish at it, he was surprised to Phrygian bonnet was an elevated see the big fish turn and seize it. | cap without a brim, the apex turned Wishing to see how near the fish over in front. It is known as the would approach, he threw another, cap of Liberty. An ancient figure bringing the tunny within a few feet of Liberty in the times of Antinius of him. On another day he saw Livius, A. D. 115, holds the cap in what he assumed was the same fish | the right hand. The Persians wore in the same locality, and ted it soft caps; plumed hats were the again, repeating the act until the headdress of the Syrian corps of fish displayed no fear, and finally | Xerxes, the broad brim was worn approached to the very side of the by the Macedonian kings. Castor boat. The writer once had a nummeans a beaver. Charles VII. in ber of singular pets in the guise of 1469, wore a felt hat lined with red. loggerhead turtles He had led an and plumed. The Englishmen expedition to capture them on and women in 1510 wore close Loggerhead Key, about seventy knitted or woolen caps; two cenmiles from Cuba-a locality some- turies ago hats were worn in the what remarkable for the animalsand gradually they had accumulated until nearly a dozen were liv- | cold because he took off his hat at ing in an inclosure about sixty feet | dinner," and again, in January. wide and an eighth of a mile long, 1665, he got another cold by sit-into which the sea water flowed ting too long with his head bare, freely. It was desirable to learn to allow his wife's maid to comb whether the turtles were suscepti- his hair and wash his ears, and ble to the taming process; so a Lord Clarendon, in his essay. system of education was begun that speaking of the decay of respect was fruitful of some exciting epi- due the aged, says "that in his sodes. The turties, when not feed- younger days he never kept his ing, lay at the bottom in water eight | hat on before those older than himor ten feet deep, their huge bodies | self, except at dinner." In the plainly outlined against the sand. | hirteenth century Pope Innocent Here they undoubtedly slept or IV. allowed the cardinals the use dozed, and it was comparatively of the scarlet cloth hat. The hats an easy matter to swin down and now in use are the cloth hat, paper grasp them from behind by the hat, leather hat, felt hat, opera hat, back of shell just over the head. spring brim hat and straw hat. The moment the turtle felt the grasp it bounded to the surface and took a long breath, then dived again, dragging the rider along at | made a curious calculation on the a rapid pace, now under water, distance to the nearest of the fixed again at the surface, endeavoring stars. The calculation was inin vain to shake off by desperate plunges the enemy, who, like the old man of the sea, clung closely to its back. If the turtle had been left to its own devices, it would soon have escaped; but, by placing the knee upon its back, enough re- Lancashire thread factories was sistance was brought into play to force it to the surface, and atter a | Those figures were certainly suffi number of rushes up and down the | cient to astonish any one, unless it inclosure it was reduced to submission. This experiment was tried many times with a view to domesticating the huge loggerheads, who finally apparently submitted with some degree of grace to the daily exercise, and would gather at one end of the inclosure to be fed. The strength of these reptiles was marvellous. Not only could one of the largest size tow a man through the water and beneath it, but when two were fastened in a rude canvas harness and attached to a flat boat they towed long enough to reach from the it around for an indefinite period.

Vanished Punishments

been a good deal of comment of Although flogging at the cart's tail is generally supposed to have late upon the increase of insanity ceased after 1827, various instances in England. It seems, from a are on record up to 1836, when a recent official report, that a similar man convicted of robbery from the | if not a worse condition of affairs person was slowly paraded through | exist in Prussia, where the lunatic the principal s reet of Saltash asylums find difficulty in providing "with bare back and flogged at the accommodations for the crowds of cart's tail, to which one of his applicants for admission. In 1871 hands was lashed at either side. the total number of lunatics in \* \* \* Two men armed with Prussia was 55,063, in 1880 it had cat-o'-nine-tails, laid on heavily, risen to 66,332, while in 1896 it has and were scolded by the beadle, or gone up to 82,850. It is interestcrier in uniform, for not hitting ing to note also that, while the harder." The punishment was growth of insanity is general, it is sometimes reduced to a farce when more marked among men than the administrating hand had been among women, Of 100,000 Pruswell "oiled." or belonged to a soft sian males it seems 278 are found hearted officer of justice, as in a to be insane; but in a like number of women only 243. From figures Cowper, where the thief was the given in the same return it appears one concerned who suffered noth that blindness is dim nishing, while ing, A youth had stolen some iron the number of deaf mutes is rather work at Olney. "Being con- increasing.

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victed," says Cowper, "he was

ordered to be whipt, which oper-

ation he underwent at the cart's

but it was all an imposition upon

the public. The beadle who per-

formed it had filled his left hand

with red ocnre, through which,

after every stroke, he drew the

lash of his whip, leaving the ap-

pearance of a wound upon the

skin, but in reality not hurting him

at all. This being perceived by

Mr. Constable Hinschomb, who

followed the beadle, he applied

agement or precaution, to the

shoulders of the too merciful

executioner. The scene immedi-

ately became more interesting.

The beadle could by no means be

prevailed upon to strike hard,

which provoked the constable to

strike harder; and this double

flogging continued till a lass of

Silver End, pitying the pitiful

beadle, thus suffering under the

joined the procession, and, placing

herself immediately behind the

latter, seized him by his capil-

lary club, and pulling him back-

The pillory continued to be

used on special occasions until its

abolition in 1837. In that engine

of punishment the culprit was

compelled to stand the public

assize with head and hands im-

movably fixed, while roughs of

both sexes pelted him (or her)

with filth and whatever else came

handiest. "It was a punishment

which it was indeed dreadful to

undergo," says Ll Jewitt. "The

dishonest baker and the cheating

ale wife, the seller of putrid flesh

and the night brawler, the forger

of letters and the courtesan, alike,

in the early days of its institution,

felt its sad effects, and it became

The terror of the cheat and the quean

And in latter days free speaking

men, free thinking politicians, free

writing authors and free acting

publishers were doomed to bear its

infliction. \* \* To some poor

starving authors and obscure pub-

ishers the pillory became a real

blessing. They were condemned

to it poor and unknown: they stood it an hour or more, and then

stepped out of it national martyrs

thus the pillory had its victims as

HATS.-The felt hat is as old as

house. Pepys, in his diary, wrote:

"September, 1664, got a severe

A THREAD FROM THE EARTH TO

A STAR.-Sir Robert Ball once

spired by a visit to one of the great

Lancashire thread factories. The

superintendent of one of the fac-

tories inspected by the astronomer

informed the star gazer that the

combined output of the various

155,000,000 miles of thread per day.

Sir Robert Ball has long since

passed the point where he ex-

presses surprise at a string of fig-

ures which represent even billions

of miles. Instead of falling stunned

at the thread man's feet, he par-

filaments by telling him that if all

the factories in Lancashire should

work day and night producing

twelve hours, it would take them

hundred years to spin a thread

INSANITY IN PRUSSIA .- There has

earth to the nearest fixed star.

155,000,000 miles of thread every

should be an astronomer.

well as the gallows."

whom many delighted to succor

Whose head is often held, I ween

at once-

witn a most Amazonian fury."

tail, from the stone house to the IOHN JOS. ALTER, Presiden. GEORGE RIEGER, See'y and Treas CHAS, F. SCHOENING, Gen. Man. high arch, and back again. He seemed to show great tortitude,

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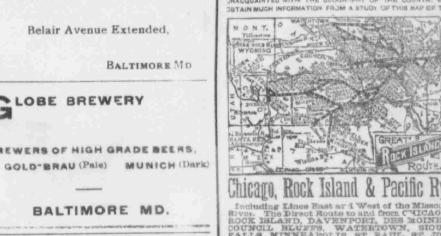


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